



Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd

Agenda board meeting 10:00 a.m. 3 February 2011, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

1. Minute

The minute of the last meeting was emailed to directors on 23 November 2010.

That the minute of the meeting of 17 November 2010 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

2. Business arising from meeting of 17 November 2010:

2.1 CFNSW

Secretary emailed the CFNSW Chairman, Tony Rogic, on 22 November 2010 seeking exploratory discussions on joint programs and sharing resources. This was copied to directors on 20 November 2010. There has been no response but a quick response was not expected.

2.2 Co-operative Education

The Co-operative Identity workshop was held 9:30 am and 4:30 p.m. 22 November 2010 at Heritage Hill Museum & Historic Gardens 66 McCrae Street Dandenong on 22 November 2010 with participants from CEHL, SEHC, and MECU. Chris Cooper also met with MECU and ABACUS Australian Mutuals in Sydney. The Co-op Identity Workshop notes of 22 November 2010 were forwarded to CEHL, SEHC and directors on 14 December 2010. As of 19 January 2011 MECU and SEHC had paid their workshop fees. Two reminders have been forwarded to CEHL.

MG has commenced its own education program for suppliers.

2.3 CAV

The Chairman has been attempting to contact Mr. Michael O'Brien MLA, Minister for Consumer Affairs Melbourne VIC 3001. The issue of the list of Victorian co-operatives provided to CV for SBA as discussed in 2.5 is a priority issue for discussion.

2.4 Co-operatives Australia

There has been no Co-operatives Australia meeting since 14 October 2010.

It was agreed that in future the top 100 annual list would be released in April of each year – commencing in 2011. The timetable for achieving this is as follows:

1. Collection of initial data from co-operatives by State Federations middle/late December 2010
2. Follow-up by State Federations of data from co-operatives by 28 January 2011.
3. Referral of data by State Federations to Secretary for consolidation 1 February 2011.
4. Issuing of draft consolidated list by Secretary for feedback from State Federations 25 February 2011.
5. Final feedback on consolidated list by 14 March 2011.
6. Publishing of final list 8 April 2011.

On 30 December 2010,

On 30 December 2010 I suggested to the other Federations that CA should adopt a position on IYC 2012 and forwarded a draft resolution for consideration. I have attached a draft resolution for your consideration.

Co-operatives Australia (CA) supports the International Year of Co-operatives (IYC)2012 and theme adopted by the United Nations for the International Year of Co-operatives: "Co-operative enterprises build a better world" and recognises the crucial role of Social Business Australia in the formation of the industry-based IYC Steering Committee in Australia.

In particular, Co-operatives Australia recognises these efforts of SBA and the IYC Steering Committee:

1. A National Australia Day mail out of the National Call to Action

The preparation of the National Call for Action material, including Australia's Top 100 Co-operatives, Credit Unions and Mutual's to be mailed to some 2,500 co-operative and social businesses on 20 Jan 2011 (in time for Australia Day).

This is the first national mail out of all co-operative businesses (not just the members of each State Federation) and - a milestone for the sector.

2. Developing a mission statement and objectives for IYC 2012 in Australia.

Mission statement: "The United Nations International Year of Co-operatives 2012 National Steering Committee engages and involves the broad range of social businesses operating in Australia today, to coordinate a national response to the opportunity presented by the United Nations declared IYC 2012, to harness Australia's potential by involving more Australians in fair, ethical, sustainable trading through community owned business."

Consistent with this Mission Statement, the IYC Steering Committee has also developed these objectives:

- Involves social business forms that demonstrate the values of member and community owned businesses such as co-operatives, credit unions, mutuals and employee-owned businesses and is committed to promoting and extending the social business model.
- Engages Government in recognising the unique role and contribution of social businesses and supports the establishment of a Social Business Council.

- Uses the United Nations IYC 2012 to demonstrate the contribution and potential of social businesses in the national economy

Co-operatives Australia supports the Mission Statement and the objectives.

Co-operatives Australia is the national body for state Co-operative Federations. It is an unincorporated body with membership by the State Co-operative Federations of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia.

Co-operatives Australia believes that IYC 2012 is a unique opportunity to recognise and celebrate the co-operative achievement and have co-operatives engage with their communities.

Co-operatives Australia has commenced planning for a national co-operative conference in 2012 that will be integrated with and complement individual State IYC programs and activities.

Co-operatives Australia is also developing a national co-operative logo that can be adopted by Australia's co-operatives as part of strengthening the co-operative brand from the grass roots community level through to the federal government.

Co-operatives already make a significant contribution to Australia's economy as demonstrated by the Co-operatives Australia annual Top 100 Co-operatives, Credit Unions and Mutual's publication.

The list, initially based on turnover, has been expanded to include aggregated membership and employee numbers. As an annual publication of the top 100 co-operatives, credit unions and mutual's the list has already increased awareness of the sector and acts a barometer of growth.

Co-operatives Australia believes it is time for a national dialogue on the co-operative achievement, opportunity and potential with interdependent multi-layered events and activities at local, regional, state and national levels.

I have also suggested that there are some key questions that need to be addressed by CA in terms of its leadership role and whether or not we allow SBA, by default, to exercise this leadership.

I would like to suggest a conference call on this general issue of leadership and the specific questions and invite suggestions on how soon the conference call could be arranged.

- What is the specific role and strategies to be adopted by CA? - i.e;
 - the establishment of a peak national co-op peak body post national legislation
 - the representation of the national co-op movement by doing X, Y and Z
- What is CA doing to create its own identity between now and 2012?
 - Who are CA's representatives - who are the members that each of the State Federations represent - what is CA's mission, objects etc?
 - What support are the individual State co-ops being expected to provide toward the national effort?
 - If Australian co-ops are expected to adopt the CA Logo - why are the State Fed's not expected to adopt the international .coop domain extension?
- What are the funding strategies to pursue these things?

2.4 Co-operatives National Law

There was a CA conference call with the National Co-operatives Working Party on 12 November 2010 and the major agenda items were:

1. What is being proposed for mutual recognition registration
2. The threshold for exemption from audit

3. Majority voting percentages for special resolutions
4. Provisions for dismissing directors, and
5. Provisions for proxies.
6. The question of resigned

Each item was initially be addressed by one of the Federation members of CA. Notes of CA conference call were emailed to directors on 23 December 2010.

The NSW Parliament has been prorogued without passing the Co-operatives National Law. The NSW election is in March 2011. The Ministerial Council has agreed, however, to deal with the draft legislation prior to then, as an out-of-session issue. So, once the Bill is finalised early in the new year, it should receive a limited release.

2.5 International Year of Co-operatives

The IYC minutes for a Steering Committee meeting on 18 November 2010 were emailed to directors when they became available on 28 November 2010.

There is to be a national mail out by Social Business Australia about IYC 2012 on 20 January 2011. A joint National Call for Action flyer had been prepared. This will be distributed to about 2500 co-operatives, credit unions and mutuals throughout Australia. This is a first national mail out. The mail out to all co-operatives will include the Top 100 Co-operatives, Credit Unions and Mutuals released by Co-operatives Australia in September 2010 – a significant promotion to the second list.

The mail out to all Victorian co-operatives will be paid for by Social Business Australia. CV will contribute \$350 towards printing the Top 100 list and pay for the printing of a letter to Victorian co-operatives

CAV has provided to CV a list of registered co-operatives which has been forwarded to SBA. The list has been provided on the basis it will only be used for this national mail out. SBA has also informed us that the letter from CV to Victorian co-operatives can only be distributed to members of CFV and not all Victorian co-operatives. This is an issue to be taken up once the SBA mail out has been completed.

Following the national mail out by SBA, a letter on IYC is to be sent to a select number of Victorian co-operatives calling for interest in a meeting to discuss IYC 2012. The mail out will include the new brochure. IYC is also an issue for consideration by Tasmanian co-operatives. See agenda item 6.3 An article has been published on victoria coop re IYC and Victoria's co-operatives:

IYC 2012 and Victoria's Co-operatives

Last Updated on Tuesday, 18 January 2011 06:15 Written by David Griffiths
Wednesday, 05 January 2011 20:51



The International Year of Co-operatives 2012 is an opportunity for Victoria's co-operatives to strengthen co-operation between co-operatives and promote the co-operative option.

On the 18 December 2009 the United Nations declared 2012 as the International Year of Co-operatives.

This article explores how different kinds of co-operatives in Victoria could contribute to IYC 2012. The Social Business Australia web site has created a calendar for co-operatives to submit activities for IYC 2012. Social

Business Australia is providing the Secretariat for an Australian IYC 2012 Steering Committee which has began planning an Australia wide response.

Radio co-operatives could promote IYC 2012 and develop feature programs for syndication for community radio stations throughout Australia e.g. the Mallee Community and Educational Broadcasting Co-operative Limited and the Progressive Broadcasting Service Co-operative Limited.

Co-operative bookshops could organise displays of books on co-operation and organise visits to Australia of co-operative writers e.g. the Melbourne Co-operative Bookshop Group Ltd and the New International Bookshop Co-operative.

Arts co-operatives could organise exhibitions which focus on co-operation e.g. the Mansfield Performing Arts Centre Co-operative Limited.

Farmer co-operatives could work together to promote co-operative ownership as a guarantee for Australian ownership and production. e.g. Murray Goulburn Co-operative Co Ltd, the Southern Quality Produce Co-operative Limited and the Peagrowers Co-operative Ltd.

Housing co-operatives could promote the co-operative option as an alternative to public and private housing e.g. Common Equity Housing Limited and the SouthEast Housing Co-operative Ltd.

Theatre co-operatives could stage and commission plays on the theme of co-operation e.g. the Unicorn Theatre Co-operative Ltd and the Swan Hill Theatre Group Co-operative Limited.

Publication co-operatives could publish articles on the co-operative option e.g., the Hopetoun Courier Co-operative Ltd and the Mountain Monthly Co-operative Ltd.

School co-operatives could demonstrate how the co-operative model is a working example of self-governing schools which is being discussed by COAG e.g. the Learning Co-operative Primary School and the Melbourne Community School Co-operative Ltd.

Community settlement co-operatives could promote co-operative living alternatives e.g. the Commonground Co-operative Ltd, the Moora Moora Co-operative Ltd and the Ruach Co-operative Ltd.

These are examples of how co-operatives in Victoria could work together to advance and promote the co-operative option. IYC 2012 is a unique opportunity for co-operatives - for the co-operative difference and the co-operative advantage. It is an opportunity for co-operatives to examine the meaning of co-operative values and principles, how these are reflected in co-operative practice and the scope for and importance of strengthening their application.

It has been agreed to review the Co-operatives WA list of proposed activities for 2012. The co-operatives WA list follows:

WA specific ideas that could be incorporated into an ideas package and promoted nationally to encourage other states and co-ops to adopt			
	CFWA Conference to "open" the year in 2012		
	Batty Library special co-ops history display	(media opportunity)	possible national roll out - travelling exhibition (Museums Australia)
	CBH annual bin planning meetings to be promoted as Co-op Planning (WA)		

	CBH Photographic Competition - theme to be "Modern and contemporary Co-op buildings" or something that promotes co-operation	(media opportunity)	
	CBH AGM to carry a IYC message	(media opportunity)	
	WAMMCO and BKW to run joint spring lamb on a spit picnic day - Katanning	(media opportunity)	
	Challenge Dairy to adopt special IYC message on packaging	(media opportunity)	
	Geraldton Fishermen's to run "first lobster" charity auction like Cherry Auction	(media opportunity)	
	Consumer Protection web site - IYC logo/acknowledgement	(media opportunity)	
	Co-ops WA and Member web sites - IYC logo/acknowledgement		
	Federation provides some complementary State and/or National Conference registrations		
	Enlist/engage with Rabo Bank at an early stage a potential event sponsor		
	Feature stories - water co-ops role in food production	(media opportunity)	
	UWA Linkage Grant study reports rolled out nationally	(media opportunity)	
	Literary Awards for stories about existing or past co-ops	(media opportunity)	

WA specific ideas that could be incorporated into an ideas package and promoted nationally to encourage other states and co-ops to adopt (Cont'd)		
Newspaper special feature insert - e.g. WA Business News		
Ravensdown completion to provide fertiliser (and labour) for a number of school or sporting ovals	(media opportunity)	
Retail Co-ops to launch "join up" and special loyalty programs in early 2012	(media opportunity)	
Retail Co-ops to re-badge/refresh/boost their local sponsorship under a IYC12 banner		

Retail Co-ops to run a "still time" program late year to get more members		
Sweeter Banana to run with IYC message on packaging (WA)	(media opportunity)	
UWA and University of Sydney Business Schools to run guest lectures/presentations	(media opportunity)	
Visit by overseas "experts" a part of Linkage Grants	(media opportunity)	
Work with Federation of Housing Collectives to profile co-operative housing concepts and models	(media opportunity)	

On 17 November 2011 the Secretary also made initial contact by email and/or telephone with:

(a) A NSW theatre group that specialises in school productions and years ago did a production on the Norco co-op.

(b) Open Channel co-operative re the commissioning of a video for 2012.

As of 20 January 2011 there had been no response.

5. Financial Statements

The Treasurer David Dinning is to present financial statements

6. Other Matters

6.1 Annual Subscription Notices

All Annual Subscription notices were mailed by 30 November 2010 and membership information was forwarded to CEHL following discussions at the workshop. As of 18 January 2011 the following co-operatives have paid the 2010-2011 Annual Subscription:

Amalgamated Taxis Wodonga Co-op \$275
 Avoca \$385
 Northcote RHC \$275
 Para Park Cooperative Game Reserve Ltd \$275
 Ruach \$165
 SEHC \$550
 Urban Camp \$285

6.2 CFV Brochure

The Chairman decided that a new brochure was needed. The brochure was organised by Tony, DD and myself and received on 10 January 2011 – thanks to the excellent work of Substitution. The brochure was uploaded to the victoria.coop web site on 18 January 2011.

6.3 Letter to Tasmanian Co-operatives

A letter was sent to the 23 registered co-operatives on 11 January 2011 – the day after the new CFV brochure was received. A copy of the letter is attached. There is no Federation for co-operatives in Tasmania. As of 20 January 2011 there had been no response.

6.4 Waverley Trading Co-operative.

There was meeting with CAV on 18 November 2010 to discuss the liquidation of the co-operative. with Tony Oshea in attendance.

6.6 Co-operative Research Group, The University of Sydney (

<http://sydney.edu.au/business/research/co-operatives>

The Research Group has on its web site a document – Australian Co-operative Data Research, Reports and Links.

The document was criticised by Co-operatives Australia at its last meeting on 16 October 2010 and this is being followed-up by Helen McCall (but not yet) but in the meantime I have provided additional material and the document has been amended.

I have appended the original and revised sections of the document. The revised sections have incorporated my additions to the document.

6.7 Web Site Updates

A report is attached.

7. Future Meetings

To be decided

Letter sent to Tasmanian co-operatives:



What is Co-operatives Victoria?

The Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd (Co-operatives Victoria) is the peak body for co-operatives in Victoria. and its mission is to develop and promote the co-operative model as a means of satisfying the economic and social needs of people.

It works with its members to ensure that they are well run, successful co-operatives. It has assisted its members with issues such as capital units, governance, formation; legislative provisions, administration and winding-up, as well as facilitating professionally delivered co-operative education. I have enclosed a Co-operatives Victoria brochure.

Co-operatives in Tasmania

There are 23 registered co-operatives in Tasmania. and Co-operatives Victoria is offering to facilitate a meeting of those co-operatives to consider (a) the formation of a peak body to represent co-operatives in Tasmania; and (b) discussing the International Year of Co-operatives in 2012 and the potential role of co-operatives in Tasmania in this activity.

An initial start to the process would be an indication from co-operatives in Tasmania as to their interest in attending an initial meeting. In responding, co-operatives might also like to suggest a possible venue for a meeting. Our hope would be that the meeting would be conducted in February 2011. Again, any indication of preferred days and times would assist us in organising a meeting.

Co-operatives Victoria plays an important role in disseminating Australian co-operative information via the Internet. As well as the main web site <http://www.victoria.coop>

Co-operatives Victoria also has three specialist sub-domains :—

<http://education.victoria.coop> <http://www.health.victoria.coop> and <http://news.victoria.coop>

Co-operatives Victoria also established the <http://www.australia.coop> web site which is now maintained by Co-operatives Australia.

Yours in co-operation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tony O'Shea", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Tony O'Shea
Chairman
Co-operatives Victoria
12 January 2011

Our **contact** information: Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd
Registered office: 71 Franciscan Avenue, Frankston VIC 3199
Phone: 03 97856704 Fax: 03 9785 6542
[Email: cfv@australia.coop](mailto:cfv@australia.coop) Website: <http://www.victoria.coop>

Extracts from the original Co-operative Research Group document:

5. Books

Third Sector. The Contribution of Nonprofit and Cooperative Enterprises in Australia,
Mark Lyons Allen and Unwin, Crows Nest, 2001

The first overview of Australia's social economy. Describes how this vital part of our social and economic systems developed, the contributions they make today and the challenges they face.

The Democracy Principle: Farmer Co-operatives in Twentieth Century Australia,
Gary Lewis, 2006, Paperback, 440 pages, ISBN 0 -646-46587-2

8. Peaks and industry organisations

Co-operatives Australia

www.australia.coop

Co-operative Statements

Public Policy and Co-operatives, April 2009

<http://www.australia.coop/ca/images/CAPublicPolicyandCooperativesApril2009.pdf>

Australia's Top 100 Co-operatives, Credit Unions and Mutuals by Annual Turnover,
June 2009

http://www.australia.coop/ca/images/CAtop_100_Australia_2009.pdf

Co-operative Education, March 2010

<http://www.australia.coop/ca/images/cooperativeeducation2010.pdf>

Valuing Education, April 2010

http://www.australia.coop/ca/images/Valuing_Co-operation_01_April_2010.pdf

What is a Co-operative? Brochure published by Co-operatives Victoria to explain the co-operative difference and advantage.

<http://www.australia.coop/ca/publications>

Extracts from revised Co-operative Research Group

document incorporating my additions:

Acknowledgments

Thank you to Dr Jo Barraket, for providing access to information compiled by researchers at QUT - Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies (ACPNS), on cooperatives and mutuals by State and Territory breakdown. Thanks also to David Griffiths, Co-operative Australia, for the information on the statements issued by Co-operatives Australia and the list of Australian books about co-operatives, credit unions and mutuals.

5. Books

Anderson, Ronald

Crisis on the land – Weighing the farmer's worth,

Sun Books, 1972, ISBN 0 7251 0143 1

Ayris, Cyril

A Heritage Ingrained – Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited 1933 – 2000

Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd 1999 ISBN 0 646 38283 7

Bayley, William A and McClenaghan

Diamond Jubilee – Nowra Co-op Dairy Co Ltd 1902-1962, Nowra Co-operative Dairy Company Limited, 1962

Blainey, Geoffrey

Odd Fellows – A History of IOOF Australia

Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd, 1991, ISBN 1 85373 158 7

Brady E.J. and Rubinstein, Leslie

Dreams and Realities

York Press Pty. Ltd Publishers, 1944

Brennan, Niall

A Hoax Called Jones

Sheed and Ward, 1962

Crapp, Harvey and Skully, Michael T

Credit Unions for Australians

George Allen & Unwin, 1985 ISBN 0 86861 501 3

Ford, Trevor, Daniels, Jeff and Turner, Rada

The Master Butchers Co-operative – Our First 100 Years 1905 – 2005

Master Butchers Co-operative Limited, 2005 ISBN 0 646 444 66 2

Godbold, Norman

Victorian Cream of the Country – A History of Victorian Dairying

Dairy Industry Association of Australia – Victorian Division, 1989 ISBN 0 7316 8743

4

Godfrey, Margaret Neilson, Ron

Born of Necessity – Dairy Co-operatives of Tasmania 18892 – 1992

United Milk Tasmania Ltd, 1992 ISBN 0 646 11133 7

Griffiths, David

The Phoenix – The SouthEast Housing Co-operative Ltd

SouthEast Housing Co-operative Ltd, 2010 ISBN 978 0 646 54094 – 8

Hampton, D. Patricia

Retail Co-operatives in the Lower Hunter Valley

Newcastle History Monographs No 12

Newcastle Region Public Library, 1986 ISBN 0 949579 05

Jones, Fletcher

Not by myself,

Kingfisher, Books Pty Ltd, 1984 ISBN 0 959 3999 8 4

Lewis, Gary

An Illustrated History of the Riverina Rice Industry

Ricegrowers' Co-operative Limited, 1994, ISBN 0646 17988 8

Lewis, Gary

A Middle Way: Rochdale Co-operatives in New South Wales, 1859-1986, Australian Association of Co-operatives, 1993

Lewis, Gary

A Mutual Way – Fifty Years of Gateway Credit Union Ltd

2005, Gateway Credit Union ISBN 0646 44573 1

Lewis, Gary

People Before Profit – The Credit Union Movement in Australia

Credit Union services Corporation (Australia) Limited, 1996 ISBN 1 86254 391 7

Lewis, Gary

The Democracy Principle: Farmer Co-operatives in Twentieth Century Australia, 2006, Paperback, 440 pages, ISBN 0 -646-46587-2

A key theme throughout the book is the devastating consequence for co-operatives of a common failure to commit to an ongoing co-operative education program. Author Gary Lewis argues that there are various reasons for the establishment and development of co-operatives but that the democracy principle is the co-operative difference. He argues that the democracy principle is the idea held by Australian farmers that it is possible in a capitalist society to democratically own and control a business on a one-member-one vote basis.

Linn, Rob

For the Benefit of the People – A History of Hindmarsh Adelaide Building Society

Hindmarsh Adelaide4 Group 1989 ISBN 0 7316 6456 6

Lyons, Mark

Third Sector. The Contribution of Nonprofit and Cooperative Enterprises in Australia, Allen and Unwin, Crows Nest, 2001

The first overview of Australia's social economy. Describes how this vital part of our social and economic systems developed, the contributions they make today and the challenges they face.

Mathews, Race

Jobs Of Our Own – Building a Stake-holder Society

Pluto Press Australia & Comerford and Miller, 1999 ISBN 1 86403 064 X

Morris, Sherry

Famous For Flavour 75 Years of Co-operation in Batlow

Batlow Fruit Co-operative Limited, 1997

ISBN 0 646 31710 5

Robinson, W

Fifty Years History – The Kurri Kurri Co-operative Society Limited

The Kurri Kurri Co-operative Society Limited, 1954

Ryan, Lorraine and Jenkins, June

The Life & Times of Lithgow Co-op – A social and industrial history of Lithgow

Lithgow Cooperative Society Research Group , 2001 ISBN 0646 37999 2

Santamaria, B.A.

The Earth Our Mother

Araluen Publishing Co, 1945

Shortland, F.B.

Twenty-five Years History – Kurri Kurri Co-operative Society Limited 1904 – 1929

Kurri Kurri Co-operative Society Limited, 1929

Spence, Catherine Helen

A Week in the Future

Hale & Iremonger Pty Ltd, 1987

First published December 1888 – July 1889

ISBN 0 86806 299 5

Jan Todd

Milk For The Metropolis – A Century of Co-operative Milk Supply in New South

Wales, Hale & Iremonger Pty Ltd, 1994, ISBN 0 86806 545 5

Twycross, John

Co-operative Garden Cities

Fraser & Jenkinson, 1919

Watson, Catherine

Just a bunch of cow cockies – The story of the Murray Goulburn Co-Operative

Murray Goulburn co-Operative Co Ltd, 2000 SBN 064 6381 129 6

White, Gael
Maryknoll History of a Catholic Rural Settlement
Artistic Wombat, 2002 ISBN 0 9580988 1 6

8. Peaks and industry organisations

Co-operatives Australia

www.australia.coop

Co-operative Statements

Public Policy and Co-operatives, April 2009

This is the first statement released by Co-operatives Australia in April 2009. Co-operatives Australia has published this paper to demonstrate the economic and social value that can be delivered by co-operative businesses and the need for public policy to incorporate the co-operative option. (April 2009)

<http://www.australia.coop/ca/images/CAPublicPolicyandCooperativesApril2009.pdf>

Australia's Top 100 Co-operatives, Credit Unions and Mutuals by Annual Turnover, September 2010

Co-operatives Australia has published a 2nd top 100 list of co-operatives, credit unions and mutuals by annual turnover. The 2nd list also includes member and employee numbers. The list demonstrates the economic and social impact of the top 100. Co-operatives Australia expressly disclaims any warranties or representations, express or implied, of any kind as to the accuracy and completeness of the list and invites any of the entities listed to supply evidence to support any requested corrections. (September 2010) For a copy of the 1st list published in June 2009.

http://www.australia.coop/ca/images/Top_100_2010.pdf

Co-operative Education, March 2010

Co-operatives Australia has published this paper to affirm the importance of co-operative education to the co-operative business model e.g. agricultural, child care, commodity, fishing, housing and retail co-operatives. (March 2010)

<http://www.australia.coop/ca/images/cooperativeeducation2010.pdf>

Valuing Co-operation, April 2010

Co-operatives Australia has published this paper to affirm the importance of co-operatives recognising that demutualisation is not inevitable; that a subsequent loss of member ownership and control has significant consequences; that there are alternative strategic and structural choices, and that balanced information is the prerequisite to informed choice. (April 2010)

http://www.australia.coop/ca/images/Valuing_Co-operation_01_April_2010.pdf

What is a Co-operative? Brochure published by Co-operatives Victoria to explain the co-operative difference and advantage.

<http://www.australia.coop/ca/publications>

Web Site Updates

australia.coop

1. Article – International Year of Co-operatives 2012 Theme Adopted (16 December 2010)
2. Article – Australia's Top 100 Co-operatives, Credit Unions and Mutuels in 2010 (18 September 2010)
3. Web Links – added United Nations and IYC 2012 (7 January 2011)
4. Web Links – added ICA Coop and IYC 2012 (9 January 2011)
5. Contact Page – updated contact information for CFSA (17 January 2011)
6. Contact Page – updated information for CFQ (17 January 2011)

education.coop

1. Article – The Phoenix – The SouthEast Housing Co-operative Ltd (29 September 2010)
2. Article – Publications Page updated (8 January 2011)
3. Article National Co-op Update Page created (8 January 2011)
4. Article National Cooperative Update Index Page created (8 January 2011)
5. PDF – National Coop Update Without Links created (8 January 2011)
6. Article – Book review of It started with applies (7 and 8 January 2011)

victoria.coop

1. Web Links – added ICA Coop and IYC 2012 (7 January 2011)

2. Web Links – added United Nations and IYC 2012 (8 January 2011)
3. Article – created Eight Steps Page (8 January 2011)
4. Article – updated Formation Page (8 January 2011)
5. Web Links – added Centre for Social Impact (9 January 2011)
6. Contact information – added email address thanks to CFNSW query (17 January 2011)
7. Article – New Brochure – Promoting the benefits of member ownership and uploaded pdf of brochure (18 January 2011)

news.coop

1. Administration – corrected a problem – not displaying year 2011 on 2011 news items
2. Added following news items since 25 November 2010:

Co-op Events

Co-operatives in Tasmania

Jan 15, 2011 - 5:45:03 PM

The Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd has written to all co-operatives in the State of Tasmania proposing a meeting for an agreed time in February 2011 to discuss (a) representation of the co-operative movement in Tasmania and (b) the participation of co-operatives in Tasmania in the International Year of Co-operatives 2012. There are 23 registered co-operatives in Tasmania and there is no co-operative body as there is in the other States - New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia.

Co-op Education

Social Business Australia

Jan 14, 2011 - 2:10:31 PM

[Social Business Australia](#) has redesigned its web site. The site's navigation bar includes About Us, Social Business, News and Events and Tools and Resources. Social Business Australia (SBA) was formed in 2009 by a group of like-minded social businesses, to assist Australian social businesses to develop and grow in the competitive environment of the mainstream economy. Sometimes described as social enterprise, social businesses have social objectives at their core, and diverse ownership structures. The businesses we support are different to not-for-profit and for profit types of enterprise - the former do not make profits and the latter use profits to reward capital.

Co-op Advocacy

Macarthur Credit Union Supports Bank Reform

Dec 18, 2010 - 3:47:25 PM

[Macarthur Credit Union](#) welcomed the Federal Government's banking reform package unveiled by Treasurer Wayne Swan on Sunday. "There are some real positives for credit unions and building societies in the Government's announcement. Macarthur Credit Union is ready to compete with the banks and this

Co-op Advocacy

Australian Central Savings & Loans and Bank Reforms

Dec 17, 2010 - 5:37:51 PM

Australia's second-largest credit union has welcomed the Federal Government announcement to introduce greater competition in the banking industry by banning mortgage exit fees on new home loans. Peter Evers - Managing Director of [Australian Central Savings & Loans](#) - said the

package gives a welcome boost to our efforts," said David Cadden, GM of Macarthur Credit Union.

[[Read More...](#)]

announcement was "a step in the right direction" for the development of greater competition in the banking sector.

[[Read More...](#)]

Co-op Advocacy : ICA

United Nations International Year of Co-operatives 2012

Dec 16, 2010 - 12:51:30 PM

The theme for the International Year of Co-operatives 2012 is "Co-operative enterprises build a better world." The theme is available in the six United Nations official languages - English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Chinese. See the website of the [International Co-operative Alliance](#) for more on the [International Year of Co-operatives 2012](#).

Co-op Advocacy

[Banking Reform Distortion Debate About Mutuals](#)

Dec 16, 2010 - 9:55:18 AM

A commentariat myth about the Australian Government's banking reforms is that the Government is proposing to tilt the industry's balance of power through legislation in its support for credit unions and building societies. This commentariat claim, variously explicit and/or implicit, is mischievously misinforming public policy debate because the proponents of this distortion are either ignorant of or antagonistic towards mutuals.

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Co-op Advocacy

[Police & Nurses Mutual Banking on Bank Reform](#)

Dec 15, 2010 - 5:44:46 PM

[Police & Nurses credit union](#) in Western Australia has declared that the Australian Government's proposals for bank reform are a step in the right direction. Police & Nurses credit union is WA's largest locally run financial institution. Police & Nurses has 16 branches in WA and offers a wide range of financial products and services, including home loans, personal loans, reverse mortgages, term deposits, credit cards, financial planning, insurance, conveyancing and foreign exchange. Police & Nurses is run on a mutual banking model. All profits are reinvested into the Society as capital for the benefit of members.

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[Mutual and Investor Non-Banks](#)

Dec 14, 2010 - 6:34:17 PM

The commentariat and the big banks are pointing out that the Government's proposed banking reforms will not help the small banks and non-bank lenders and their comments are perceived to be self-evident. But, the analysis is wrong because credit unions and building societies are mutual non-banks and what they offer in terms of competition is very different from the investor-owned regional banks and the investor owned non-banks such as Aussie Loans. There are significant differences in the purpose, philosophy and structure of investor-owned non-banks and mutual-owned non-banks and this difference generates differing responses.

[[Read More...](#)]

Co-op Advocacy

[ABACUS Australian Mutual on Banking Reform](#)

Dec 13, 2010 - 11:31:56 AM

Abacus – Australian Mutuals is the industry body representing credit unions and mutual building societies. In commentary on the Government's banking competition policy today a number of commentators, including the Shadow Treasurer the Hon Joe Hockey, have made

Co-ops & Government

[Australian Government and the Mutuals Banking Reform](#)

Dec 12, 2010 - 9:23:09 AM

The Australian Treasurer, Wayne Swan, has released the Government's proposals for a competitive and sustainable banking system - including the roles of building societies and credit unions. Read the Treasurer's news release. [ABACUS Australian Mutuals](#), which represents credit unions and building societies, has welcomed the Australian Government's announcement.

inaccurate claims about mutuals. Clarification is provided below. [[Read More...](#)]

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Co-ops & Government

[Australian Treasurer Joins Credit Union](#)

Dec 11, 2010 - 9:06:08 AM

A doorstep media interview with the Australian Treasurer, Wayne Swan, on why he opened an account at a Credit Union Australia branch in Brisbane, Queensland, on 10 December 2010. [Credit Union Australia](#) has 400,000 members, 800 staff and 70 branches.

[[Read More...](#)]

Investor Ownership

Credit Union and Building Societies Risk Claim

Nov 25, 2010 - 12:33:57 PM

In an article by Lisa Pham, [Australia Bid to Boost Bank Competition May Be Risky, UBS Says](#) published by Bloomberg on 24 November 2010 - UBS AG argues that increasing Australian government support for credit unions and building societies to boost banking competition could be risky. For the credit union and building society view visit [ABACUS Australian Mutuals](#).

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